THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.—Government are not aware of it.

MR. R. DASAPPA.—Will the Government be pleased to notify in the Gazette that the old system of the Revenue Department conducting the auction sales has been revived, in view of the fact that the *Jamabandi* time is fast approaching?

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.—Yes.

MR. R. DASAPPA.—If it is a fact that orders for revival of the old system have already been issued, how is it that the Forest Department is notifying sales by its own officers?

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL.—Government will make needful enquiries.

MR. T. MARIAPPA.—Are the Government aware that even in the case of a well-conducted sale, the auction is not confirmed because, subsequently, a higher offer is made by some other party? Hereafter at least will instructions be issued to officers not to disturb the result of sales in view of subsequent offers?

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL.—The existing rules clearly lay down the powers of particular officers with regard to confirmation or cancellation of sales. Neither the Government nor the Department is bound to accept the highest bids in all cases.

Facilities for Marketing Agricultural Products.

MESSRS. W. H. HANUMANTHAPPA (Bangalore City Municipality) and M. A. GOPALASWAMI IYENGAR (Special Interests).—

Q.—8. Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) The facilities provided by Government for the marketing of agricultural products of the State?

(*b*) The number of co-operative societies that undertake the marketing of the agricultural products of their members and non-members?

(*c*) The total quantity of the agricultural products marketed through the agency of co-operative societies and the proportion it bears to the total marketable quantity of the agricultural products in the State?

(*d*) Whether they have perused the Government of India Resolution, dated Simla, 4th May 1934, on the Provincial Economic Conference held in New Delhi in the first week of April 1934?

(*e*) Whether they have proposed to adopt an intensive programme for the development of marketing facilities for the agricultural products on the lines suggested in the Government of India Resolution?

(*f*) The steps that they have taken or propose to take in this connection?

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.—

A.—8. (*a*) Facilities for transport by roads and railway; provision of markets and *santhes*; formation of co-operative sales societies; introduction of special Regulations like the Weights and Measures Regulation; and the appointment of a Trade Commissioner in London.

(*b*) Five societies.

(*c*) Cotton ... 12,833 maunds.
Cardamom ... 859 do
Areca ... 194 do

The proportion that these quantities bear to the total marketable quantity of agricultural products in the State is negligible.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) and (*f*) The question for the development of marketing facilities for agricultural products is under the active consideration of Government.

MR. W. H. HANUMANTHAPPA.—With reference to answer (*f*), in what directions are the Government contemplating facilities?

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.—The question is under the active consideration of Government and orders will be issued presently.

MR. W. H. HANUMANTHAPPA.—Is it not a fact that the raiyats are subjected to several hardships for want of facilities for marketing their agricultural commodities?

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.—Yes, please see answers to (*e*) and (*f*).

MR. G. KANCHAPPA.—In the matter of weights and measures, is it not possible for the Government to bring about uniformity throughout the State?

THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRIES AND COMMERCE.—The use of uniform weights and measures has been ordered throughout the State and the Industries Department has been manufacturing and supplying weights and measures of the regulation type. The difficulty has been that the Weights and Measures Regulation has not been introduced throughout the State. Even in the 32 places where it has been in vogue, the aggrieved party can only institute a civil suit and claim damages. The use of other measures is not a cognisable offence for the police to interfere and start proceedings or investigation. We can say that weights and measures not bearing the government stamp should not be used. Usually a *palla* means 100 seers. But if there is a special contract between parties that it should be reckoned as 105 seers, the police cannot interfere. But if a contract mentions a *palla*, a court can order that only 100 seers are permissible. There is provision for punishment only in cases of deception.

MR. G. KANCHAPPA.—So, am I to understand that the safeguard is in the Regulation but that it cannot be enforced?

THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRIES AND COMMERCE.—No, it is in the Regulation and can be enforced through civil litigation. But it is not a criminal offence.

MR. JATHARE NAIK.—It is not easy for people in rural areas to sue the parties in a civil court every time and obtain relief. The merchants in the interior generally use bigger measures for purchasing and smaller ones for selling purposes.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL.—We shall appoint a committee of the Industries Board to thoroughly investigate the question. They will examine whether the Regulation itself has to be modified in certain respects.

MR. K. SRIKANTAIYA.—Are Government aware that though they have arranged to distribute uniform weights and measures throughout the State, the merchants are using different weights and measures in different places and for different commodities? For example, the weight of one maund is reckoned as 40 seers for some commodities, while it is 42½, 45, and even 50 seers for some other commodities. Similarly, *pallas* also are reckoned as 100 seers, 125 seers, 150 seers and so on. As there are such wide divergences, they lead to difficulties.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL.—The proposed committee will look into those things.

MR. M. A. GOPALASWAMI IYENGAR.—As regards facilities for transport, have the Government taken steps to obtain concessions in railway freight in respect of agricultural commodities?

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL.—The schedule provides different rates for different commodities. The rates in respect of agricultural produce are definitely specified. As such the question of special concessions cannot arise.

MR. M. A. GOPALASWAMI IYENGAR.—Is not a special concession called for in the case of agricultural products in view of the present depression?

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL.—If by giving concessional rates the traffic would improve, the Railway Department will consider the question.

MR. M. A. GOPALASWAMI IYENGAR.—Reference is made in the answer to the provision of markets and *santhes*. Are they the markets and *santhes* which already existed or have new ones been provided in connection with the special measures taken by the Government? If the latter, are any commodities specially advertised?

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL.—In some places they are old and in some others new.

MR M. A. GOPALASWAMI IYENGAR.—Is the Trade Commissioner for Mysore doing anything in London to promote the sale of our agricultural produce?

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL.—No, not agricultural produce in general; but as regards commercial crops like coffee, he is engaged in advertising them and pushing their sale and he has also

been trying to see if our coffee can be cured better so as to command better prices.

MR. M. A. GOPALASWAMI IYENGAR.—The Marketing Expert of the Government of India visited the State recently. What is the outcome of the Government's consultation with him?

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL.—It is as a result of the discussions with him that the entire matter is under the active consideration of Government.

MR. M. A. GOPALASWAMI IYENGAR.—Is it under contemplation to appoint a Marketing Officer for Mysore?

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL.—That aspect of the question is also under consideration.

MR. M. A. GOPALASWAMI IYENGAR.—Do the Mysore Government want to proceed, in respect of that question, on the lines laid down in the Government of India Resolution?

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL.—I can only say that the whole matter is under consideration.

MR. M. A. GOPALASWAMI IYENGAR.—May we hope that very soon some substantial advance will be made in that direction?

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL.—Yes.

The Mysore Road Traffic and Taxes Bill—*Resumed.*

MR. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY observed that the Bill related only to two main principles, *viz.*, the constitution of a Traffic Board and revised taxation. As regards the first, the House was generally in favour; but as regards the second, there were many details not mentioned in the statement of general principles, on account of which the House was not in a position adequately to judge the utility of the proposed legislation and ascertain how far it was an improvement over the existing Regulation. The Traffic Board would no doubt, consist of a certain amount of non-official element and certain special interests would also be represented on it; but it was not clear what the exact number of non-officials on the Board was going to be, what proportion that number would bear to the number of official members and what powers the Board as a whole was going to exercise. He would specifically suggest that bus passengers who were subjected to a number of difficulties at present be represented on the Board.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL replied that the interests to be represented had been mentioned only in general and that there was nothing to prevent Government considering that suggestion.

MR. CHENGALARAYA REDDY, while thanking the Government for the reply, observed that it only went to support the contention of Mr. Hoskoppa Krishna Rao who had urged that for this and other reasons the Government might take some more time over the Bill, make it self-contained and place it before the Assembly at its next session.

Referring to the question of the constitution of the Traffic Board, he said that one would like to know before lending support or offering opposition to the Bill whether the Board would consist of an adequate number of representatives from District Boards whose interests were going to be vitally affected by the proposed legislation.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL feared that if, as suggested, representatives from each District Board were to be taken, the Traffic Board, would become an unwieldy and unworkable body. Each member would begin to advance the interests of his own district so that the Central Traffic Board would become practically another District Board. For this reason, he said that there was no idea to give representation to District Boards as such. The Central Traffic Board must view the questions coming before it from the point of view of the interests of the State as a whole.

MR. CHENGALARAYA REDDY said that in that case he would have to hold back even the partial support which he had originally intended to give to the Bill. For, in the circumstances, the District Boards were sure to be adversely affected by the constitution of the Traffic Board. In the first place,